GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:7320
ANSWERED ON:12.05.2000
IMPORT AND EXPORT OF PULSES
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Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the import and export of pulses is permitted;

(b) if so, whether there is a balance in the demand and supply of pulses in the country;

(c) if not, the reasons for making the import and export by the Government on equal terms;

(d) the quantum of pulses imported and exported during 1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000 alongwith the price thereof; and

(e) the additional revenue earned therefrom during each of the last three years?

Answer

MINISTER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN)

(a) to (e) Pulses are classified under Exim Code 07.13 of ITC(HS) Classifications of Export and Import Items, 1997-2002Import of all pulses except that of Australian Lupin Seeds and toxic pulses is free.However, export of all type of pulses including lentils, grams, beans and flour made therefrom, except those in consumer packs upto 5 Kg., is restricted.

As per the data available with the Government, the quantity, value and per unit value of the import and export of pulses for the years 1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000(upto November, `99) are as follows:

IMPORT OF PULSES

Year	Quantity (in `000 tonnes)	Value (Rs.lakhs)	Unit value spent (Rs.Lakhs/`000 tonnes)
1997-98	1008	119464	118.5
1998-99	313	40452	129.2
1999-2000(upto November, `99)	137	18324	133.7

EXPORT OF PULSES

Year	Quantity (in `000 tonnes)	Value (Rs. Lakhs)	Unit value realized (Rs.Lakhs/`000 tonnes)
1997-98	168	36089	214.8
1998-99	101	21874	216.5
1999-2000(upto November, `99)	127	27706	218.15

[source: DGCI&S, Calcutta]

As can be seen from the figures provided above, India has been a net importer of pulses during the period. Export of pulses is allowed only in consumer packs. Thus the unit value of export is higher than the unit value of import of pulses. Since India had been a net importer of pulses the total foreign exchange spent on import of pulses, is higher than that earned through export of pulses, even though the unit value realized on exports is higher.